(ख) क्या उत्पादन में वार्षिक वृद्धि की सफलता का कोई आकलन किया गया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके निर्धारित लक्ष्य क्या है, इसका राज्य-वार आकलन क्या है; और

(घ) उक्त अवधि के प्रत्येक वर्ष के दौरान खाद्यान्न उत्पादन की कितनी अनुमानित वृद्धि निर्धारित की गई है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल): (क) से (घ) नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

Ban on Fishing in Oceans During Monsoon period

914. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demands raised by the fishermen and their trade unions to ban fishing in the oceans during the monsoon period using motorised boats and trawlers;

(b) whether Government had conducted any expert study about the reasons raised by the fishermen to ban fishing during the monsoon period; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) With a view to conserve fishery resources and present killing of juvenile fishes, some coastal States have been imposing ban on fishing during monsoon period. Central Government had received requests from the State Governments for imposing similar ban in the EEZ for the same period. However, no demand has been received from the fishermen and trade Unions for this purpose.

(b) and (c) the question does not arise.

Annual Compound Growth of Agriculture

915. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the annual compound growth of agriculture from 1990-91 to 1998-99;

(b) what are the reasons for the fall in annual compound growth; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to improve the growth of agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The annual compound growth of crop production during 1990-91 to 1997-98 was 2.47 percent. The year 1998-99 has not yet commenced. The main reason for slower growth during the nineties compared to eighties is the slower growth in productivity mainly due to decelaration in fertiliser consumption and sluggish public sector investment.

(c) To accelerate the growth in agriculture, the Government is implementing various crop-specific centrally sponsored programmes relating to cereals, pulses, oilseeds, cotton, Jute, sugarcane and horticulture crops, Besides, Government is also providing price and market support to the farmers.

Deep Sea fishing Harbour at Agardanda

916. PROF. RAM KAPSE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the project of construction of a deep sea fishing harbour under the centrally sponsored scheme at Agardanda in Raigarh district of Maharashtra.

(b) by when the construction work will be started; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in undertaking construction work of this harbour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore is conducting investigations for preparation of technical report for Agardanda fishing harbour project in consultation with the State Government. Based on the technical report to be submitted to the Govern-

ment, the proposal will be considered further.

(c) Question does not arise.

Potato cultivation during Ninth Plan

917. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to increase potato cultivation during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the State-wise target set therefor;

(c) whether any scheme has been proposed for the purpose and central assistance would be extended to the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise targets have not been set for IX Plan.

(c) and (d) There is no separate scheme for potato cultivation. However, a scheme for integrated development of vegetables including root & tuber crops covering potato, with an outlay of Rs. 7500 lakh has been proposed. Under the scheme assistance would be extended to set up the true Potato Seed/seedling tuber production centres in the States and for promoting its cultivation through area expansion, distribution of minikits and laying out of demonstration plots.

Agricultural land in Orissa

918. SHRI K.M. SAIMULLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that alarming emergency is taking place in the Kalahandi district of Orissa where agricultural land is grappled by money lenders;

(b) whether it is a fact that the people of Kalahandi district are being reduced to abject poverty, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the plans of Government to cope up with the misery of the people of the district, alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per the report received from the Government of Orissa, there is no alarming emergency situation of grappling the agricultural land in Kalahandi district.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Various programmes such as IRDP/ JRY/EAS/KBK and other anti-poverty and welfare programmes are implemented in the district for the benefit of the people who are below the poverty line. Labour intensive works are undertaken and a sizeable number of people are getting emergency feeding. As and when required, Gratuitors Relief Cards are issued to the distressed people.

Foodgrains loss due to land degradation and pollution

919. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government to assess the estimated annual loss of foodgrains output in the country due to land degradation and damage to crop from pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated annual degradation of land with areas where land degradation is accounted to be highest;

(c) the estimated annual loss in foodgrains output due to crop pollution; and

(d) the strategy, if any, formulated by Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) No systematic studies have been undertaken to assess the annual degradation of land